



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

June 14, 2013

Speaker of the Assembly
Robin Vos
State Capitol, Room 211 West
Madison, WI 53708-8953

Joint Finance Committee Chair
John Nygren
State Capitol, Room 309 East
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Speaker Vos and Joint Finance Committee Chair Nygren,

On June 4, the Joint Finance Committee (JFC) adopted Motion #591, which covered LFB papers #251 through #259 pertaining to general fund taxes. We are urging you and your caucus to support an amendment we will be offering on the Assembly floor that will restore the Governor's position on the Veterans and Surviving Spouses Property Tax Credit (LFB Paper #252).

When the Republican's on JFC voted to adopt Motion #591 they imposed a nearly \$21 million property tax increase on 100% disabled veterans and their spouses and unremarried spouses of veterans killed in Iraq and Afghanistan. We agree with Al LaBelle, Legislative Director of the Disabled American Veterans of Wisconsin, who said "apparently, some Joint Finance Committee members feel the sacrifices made by severely wounded, injured and ill veterans are just another budget item" and that "balancing the budget on the backs of these severely injured heroes is shameful."

In Wisconsin, supporting our veterans has historically enjoyed strong bipartisanship support. We urge you to continue that tradition and join us in supporting our amendment.

Sincerely the Democratic members of the Assembly Committee on Veterans,

Janis Ringhand
State Representative
45th Assembly District

Nick Milroy
State Representative
73rd Assembly District

Christine Sinicki
State Representative
20th Assembly District

Amy Sue Vrwink
State Representative
70th Assembly District

Dianne Hesselbein
State Representative
79th Assembly District

Evan Goyke
State Representative
18th Assembly District